



File Code: 2820/1950

Date: July 22, 2011

Chris Freeman  
Berry Petroleum Company  
1999 Broadway, Suite 3700  
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. Freeman,

Kristy Groves, District Ranger for the Roosevelt/Duchesne Ranger Districts of the Ashley National Forest, has decided to approve a proposal from Berry Petroleum, to drill up to 19 oil and natural gas wells, within the South Unit of the Ashley National Forest. All of the wells would be directionally drilled from existing well pads, so no new road construction or well pads would be required.

This project falls within statutory NEPA categorical exclusion (CE) #2, as granted in Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, for oil and gas exploration and development that is excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Analysis of the project demonstrated that no extraordinary circumstances exist that would preclude use of this CE category.

A copy of the decision is attached. Further information about this project can be obtained from David Herron, Forest Geologist, during normal office hours (weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) at the Duchesne Ranger District Office located at 85 West Main, P.O. Box 981, Duchesne, Utah 84021; Phone: (435) 781-5218; Fax: (435) 781-5215; or e-mail: [daherron@fs.fed.us](mailto:daherron@fs.fed.us). A copy of the decision and project map can also be found at: [www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley/projects](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley/projects)

This decision is not subject to appeals.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Kristy L. Groves*  
Kristy L. Groves

cc: David A Herron

